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(54) Title: METHODS FOR EXPRESSION AND PURIFICATION OF IMMUNOTOXINS

(57) Abstract: In one aspect the present invention relates to a method of expressing an immunotoxin in *Pichia pastoris* strain mutated to toxin resistance comprising a) growing the *Pichia pastoris* in a growth medium comprising an enzymatic digest of protein and yeast extract and maintaining a dissolved oxygen concentration at 40% and above; and b) performing methanol induction with a limited methanol feed of 0.5-0.75 ml/min/ 10L of initial volume during induction along with a continuous infusion of yeast extract at a temperature below 17.5 °C., antifoaming agent supplied up to 0.07%, agitation reduced to 400 RPM, and the induction phase extended out to 163 h. In another aspect, the present invention relates to a method of purifying a nonglycosylated immunotoxin comprising a) loading a solution containing the nonglycosylated immunotoxin onto a hydrophobic interaction column; b) obtaining a first non-glycosylated immunotoxin containing eluant from the hydrophobic interaction column; c) loading the non-glycosylated immunotoxin containing eluant from step (b) onto an anion exchange column; d) obtaining a second non-glycosylated immunotoxin containing eluant from the anion exchange column by eluting the non-glycosylated immunotoxin with a sodium borate solution; e) diluting the concentration of sodium borate in the second non-glycosylated immunotoxin containing eluant from step (d) to about 50 mM or less; f) concentrating the diluted non-glycosylated immunotoxin containing eluant from step (e) over an anion exchange column; and g) obtaining a purified non-glycosylated immunotoxin from the anion exchange column.

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